

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4252

UNCLAS GENEVA 9985

FOR D/HA

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SREF UNHCR
SUBJ: INDOCHINA PROGRAM - UNHCR REQUEST FOR FUNDS

1. FOLLOWING LETTER RECEIVED FROM UNHCR:

QUOTE: I SHOULD LIKE TO REFER TO OUR RECENT CONVERSATION REGARDING
THE NEED FOR INCREASED FUNDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF DISPLACED PERSONS
FROM INDOCHINA OUTSIDE THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

AS OF 30 NOV 1976 TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED TO DATE,
FROM BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE SOURCES, AMOUNT TO US D8,041,145.5
0,
INCLUDING US \$3,320,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. AGAINST
THESE CONTRIBUTIONS, A TOTAL OF US \$3,480,959.65 HAS BEEN SPENT
TO FINANCE THE RESETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS EX-THAILAND. A
FURTHER AMOUNT OF US \$3,912,603.58 HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO
PROVIDE CARE AND MAINTENANCE TO DISPLACED PERSONS RESIDING IN
VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA, TO FINANCE RESETTLEMENT IN
VARIOUS COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS TO COVER EXPENDITURES RELATING TO THE
VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF INDOCHINESE TO THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.

THE BALANCE REMAINING UNDER THIS PROJECT AMOUNTS TO US \$647,582.27.
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THIS INCLUDES A NUMBER OF EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS, AMONG WHICH IS
AN AMOUNT OF US \$461,116.04 REMAINING FROM THE INITIAL CONTRIBUTION
OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SET ASIDE TO COVER REPATRIATION
EXPENSES EX-U.S. SYSTEM. AS THESE EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS CANNOT BE
UTILIZED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE THAN ORIGINALLY INTENDED, THE EFFECTIV
E

BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE NOW STANDS AT APPROXIMATELY
US \$85,000.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, WE HAVE NO FUNDS AVAILABLE TO COVER REQUIREMENTS UNTIL THE END OF 1976 AND EVEN LESS SO IN 1977. IT HAS BEEN ESTIMATED, ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE FIELD, AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CURRENT CASELOAD OF THE SO-CALLED "BOAT PEOPLE" FROM VIET NAM WHO HAVE BEEN GRANTED TEMPORARY ASYLUM IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA, THAT:

(A) THE TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED TO COVER NEEDS UNTIL 31 DECEMBER 1976 AMOUNT TO US \$168,000;

(B) A FURTHER AMOUNT OF US \$550,000 WILL BE REQUIRED TO COVER THESE SAME NEEDS UNTIL 30 JUNE 1977. (THE REQUIREMENTS FOR 1977 DO NOT INCLUDE THE COST OF RESETTLING DISPLACED PERSONS EX-THAILAND, AS IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS WILL BE FINANCED UNDER THE 1977 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR THAILAND).

AS YOU WILL AGREE, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MAKING THIS ASSISTANCE READILY AVAILABLE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT GOVERNMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA, GRANT TEMPORARY ASYLUM TO THE BOAT CASES. ACCORDINGLY, I SHOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL IF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT COULD SEE ITS WAY INTO MAKING AVAILABLE AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY AN INITIAL AMOUNT OF SAY US \$500,000 IN ORDER TO COVER THE REQUIREMENTS MENTIONED ABOVE. SINCERELY YOURS,
CHARLES H. MACE DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER END QUOTE.
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2. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION, DEPUTY HCR CLARIFIED NEED FOR CY 76 AS \$168,000 LESS THE \$85,000 STILL AVAILABLE (TOTAL NEEDED \$83,000). HE FURTHER ASKED IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO FREE THE \$461,116 EARMARKED FOR REPATRIATION.

3. PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY. CATTO

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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